



# Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot

## *Troy Rehabilitation and Improvement Program, Inc., Troy, NY*

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund programs (each funded up to \$1,000,000 over five years) to capitalize loan funds to make loans for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

### BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the Troy Rehabilitation and Improvement Program, Inc. (TRIP) for a Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot. The City of Troy's Brownfields Assessment Pilot program will partner with TRIP. The City of Troy (population 54,000) is located 10 miles north of Albany on the Hudson River. Both the Brownfields Assessment Pilot and the Brownfields Job Training Pilot address a distressed working class neighborhood within the underused industrial waterfront area, which has been designated a federal Enterprise Community and a state Empire Zone. Neighborhoods in this area suffer from unemployment rates as high as 13% and poverty rates as high as 30%. Troy's population is 17% minority.

Years of decline in traditional manufacturing industries have left mills, warehouses, and heavy industrial facilities abandoned and deteriorating. The City of Troy is in the process of implementing the South Troy Working Waterfront Revitalization Plan, a brownfields redevelopment strategy that will add over 2,000 new jobs, over one million square feet of new commercial space, and over fifty acres of waterfront greenspace. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is supporting brownfields redevelopment

### PILOT SNAPSHOT



Troy, New York

**Date of Announcement:**  
December 2000

**Amount:** \$200,000

**Profile:** The Troy Brownfields Job Training Pilot will train 50 participants as environmental technicians. Students will be recruited from the City's federal Enterprise Community, which contains many brownfields created by past heavy industrial activities along the City's waterfront.

#### Contacts:

Troy Rehabilitation and  
Improvement Program, Inc.  
(518) 272-8289

Regional Brownfields Team  
U.S. EPA - Region 2  
(212) 637-4314

Visit the EPA Region 2 Brownfields web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/r02earth/superfnd/brownfld/bfmainpg.htm>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

through \$8 million in grant and loan funding. Demand for environmental technicians is expected to increase as more of the planned redevelopment projects are implemented.

## TRAINING OBJECTIVES

TRIP plans to train 50 participants, achieve a 70% placement rate, and support career placement of graduates for one year after the training is completed. Participants will be recruited from the distressed North Central and South Troy neighborhoods, with a focus on low-income residents, minority workers, recipients of public assistance, and residents of subsidized housing. The 230-hour Pilot training program includes the Occupational Health and Safety Administration's required training for hazardous waste workers, lead and asbestos abatement, general construction and industrial equipment operation, and brownfields assessment and remediation, including training in the use of innovative assessment and remediation technologies. Trainees will learn cutting edge innovative technologies such as bioventing, thermal desorption, phytoremediation, and bioremediation.

TRIP's training efforts will be supported by organizations such as the City of Troy, Hudson Valley Community College County Workforce Development Center, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and local groups such as the North Central Neighborhood Association. Through the involvement of local employers, the Troy Environmental Science Training curriculum is being customized to produce technicians capable of addressing regional hazardous waste issues. Private sector supporters include River Street Planning and Development, FASES Partners, Inc., Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, Weston, and Safety Systems, Inc. An Advisory Board consisting of City staff, Pilot partners, and additional neighborhood residents will be established to oversee implementation of the Brownfields Job Training Pilot.

## ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Conducting outreach to recruit residents from the distressed North Central and South Troy neighborhoods;
- Conducting environmental technician training, including courses in the use of innovative assessment and cleanup technologies; and
- Supporting career placement of students for one year after the job training is completed.

*The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.*